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CITY COUNCIL			2. FROM (ORIGINATING D	February 4, 2008						
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FUND		See Attached	81140				9. ADDITI	ONAL INFORMATION / ESTIMAT	ED COST:	
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								I, as co-counsel to prosection No. 02-CV-0693.	cute bad	
	_	*	d Comptroller to al vine, Levine Steinl			•		Liability Fund for the co	overage o	
								for outside counsel. The nanimously 8 to 0.	motion	
11A.	STAFF RECOMME	NDATIONS: ADOPT THE	RESOLUTION.							
		,	A.R. 3.20 FOR INF	DRMATION OF	COMP	LETING THIS SE	CTION.)			
<u>co</u>	UNCIL DIST	<u> [RICT(S)</u> : 8								
<u>CO</u>	MMUNITY A	AREA(S): O	TAY MESA							
<u>EN</u>	VIRONMEN	TAL IMPACT:								
HOUSING IMPACT: This matter is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA G					CEQA Guide	elines 15061(b)(3).				
	HER ISSUE ld Bradley, 6	<u>S</u> : C 319/533-6173.	ity Clerk requeste	ed to provide	certifi	ed copy of fina	documents	to Chief Deputy City A	Attorney	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET

DATE ISSUED:

February 4, 2008

REPORT NO.:

ATTENTION:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND COUNCILMEMBERS

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: CITY ATTORNEY

SUBJECT:

Authorizing the continued retention of Latham & Watkins and Harvey Levine, Levine Steinberg, et al, as co-counsel to prosecute bad faith case in *Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania vs. City of San Diego*, U.S. District Court Case No. 02-CV-0693

COUNCIL DISTRICT(S): 8

CONTACT/PHONE NUMBER: Todd Bradley, 619/533-6173

REQUESTED ACTION:

Authorize the continued retention of Latham & Watkins and Harvey Levine, Levine Steinberg, et al, as co-counsel to prosecute bad faith case in *Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania vs. City of San Diego*, U.S. District Court Case No. 02-CV-0693;

Authorizing the City Auditor and Comptroller to allocate and expend up to \$300,000 from the Public Liability Fund for Latham & Watkins' LLP and Harvey Levine, Levine Steinberg legal fees and costs related to this matter.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Resolution

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City's insurers, Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania ("ISOP"), and other AIG insurers, sued the City in federal court in 2002, seeking a finding of no coverage for the City's defense (attorneys' fees) and indemnity (damages) in the De La Fuente cases (Otay Acquisitions v. City, S.D.S.C. Case No. GIC 753247; National Enterprises v. City, S.D.S.C. Case No. GIC 730011; and Border Business Park, Inc. v. City, S.D.S.C. Case No. GIC 692794). The City counter-claimed to establish its right to a defense and for bad faith.

In March 2005, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the District Court and held ISOP has a duty to defend the City. Despite that ruling, ISOP has continued to file motions in the District Court disputing its duty to defend and the amount of fees it must reimburse to the City. In March 2006, the District Court issued a judgment that ISOP must pay the City's defense costs, subject to statutory limits (for now).

The District Court has also lifted a stay order and is allowing the City to pursue its bad faith claim against ISOP for its failure to defend.

As a result of this successful litigation against the City's insurance carriers, approximately \$5,637,427 of insurance proceeds already have been received to help defray the costs of the representation for defense of the De La Fuente cases and for payment of damages (if any). Unlike the AIG insurers, another City insurer, United National, without litigation has paid one occurrence policy limit (\$2 million), which the City can use to fund any settlement or liability in the De La Fuente cases. This amount is included in the total above.

In order for the City to recover damages from ISOP, the City has been pursuing its bad faith claim. This has required extensive discovery, motion practice and trial preparation. It is the view of outside counsel (Latham and co-counsel, Harvey Levine) that, while there can be no guarantees of recovery, the City's duty to defend bad faith case is a strong one because (1) ISOP's own personnel recognized their duty to defend in the claims files; (2) ISOP agreed in writing to defend in 2001; (3) ISOP nonetheless delayed (for months and years at a time) payment of the City's defense costs, and repeatedly stopped all payment for months and years. Among other things, damages recoverable by the City may consist of (1) unpaid defense costs; (2) the shortfall between ISOP's partially paid defense costs and defense counsels' actual fees; (3) interest on these amounts; (4) the cost of the coverage litigation; and (5) punitive damages.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

With this action the Council will authorize the City Auditor and Comptroller to expend up to \$300,000 from the Public Liability Fund to cover the portion of the Latham & Watkins and Harvey Levine, Levine Steinberg representation in the bad faith case.

Latham & Watkins will proceed with the case on an hourly billing basis. In addition, cocounsel Harvey Levine of Levine Steinberg, et al will continue to be reimbursed under a contingent basis and will be paid at the conclusion of the case pursuant to the terms of his retainer agreement.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL and/or COMMITTEE ACTION:

The City Council voted in Closed Session on December 4, 2007, on Item CS-2. The motion was made by Councilmember Madaffer and the second by Council President Peters. The item passed unanimously 8 to 0.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS:

N.A.

001001

KEY STAKEHOLDERS & PROJECTED IMPACTS (if applicable):

Law firm of Latham & Watkins, Kristine Wilkes, lead partner Law firm of Levine Steinberg et al, Harvey Levine

Originating Department

Don McGrath, Executive City Attorney

The City of San Diego CERTIFICATE OF CITY AUDITOR AND COMPTROLLER

001003

CERTIFICATE OF UNALLOTTED BALANCE

ORIGINATING

AC 2800627

2800627

AC

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the money required for the allotment of funds for the purpose set forth in the foregoing resolution is available in the Treasury, or is anticipated to come into the Treasury, and is otherwise unallotted. Fund: Amount: Purpose: Date: AUDITOR AND COMPTROLLER'S DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTING DATA ACCTG CY OPERATION FUND DEPT ORG. ACCOUNT JOB ORDER BENF/ EQUIP FACILITY LINE ACCOUNT AMOUNT TOTAL AMOUNT FUND OVERRIDE CERTIFICATION OF UNENCUMBERED BALANCE I HEREBY CERTIFY that the indebtedness and obligation to be incurred by the contract or agreement authorized by the hereto attached resolution, can be incurred without the violation of any of the provisions of the Charter of the City of San Diego; and I do hereby further certify, in conformity with the requirements of the Charter of the City of San Diego, that sufficient moneys have been appropriated for the purpose of said contract, that sufficient moneys to meet the obligations of said contract are actually in the Treasury, or are anticipated to come into the Treasury, to the credit of the appropriation from which the same are to be drawn, and that the said money now actually in the Treasury, together with the moneys anticipated to come into the Treasury, to the credit of said appropriation, are otherwise unencumbered. Not to Exceed: \$300,000.00 Latham & Watkins, LLP Vendor: Authorize the continued retention of Latham & Watkins and Harvy Levine, Levine Steinberg, et al, as co-counsel to prosecute Purpose: bad faith case in Insurance Co of the State of Pennsylvania v. City of San Diego. Authorize the City Auditor & Comptroller to allocate and expend up to \$300,000 from the Public Liability Fund (81140) for legal costs and related fees. March 12, 2008 Date: AUDITOR AND COMPTROLLER'S DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTING DATA ACCTG. CY OPERATION JOB ORDER BENF/ EQUIP FACILITY ACCOUNT AMOUNT ORG. LINE PY **FUND** DEPT ACCOUNT \$300,000.00 0 82240 4151 001 81140 \$300,000.00 TOTAL AMOUNT FUND OVERRIDE AC-361 (REV 2-92)

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE	٠

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO CONTINUE THE AGREEMENT WITH LATHAM & WATKINS LLP AND LEVINE STEINBERG, AS CO-COUNSEL IN AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT UP TO \$300,000 TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROSECUTION OF THE BAD FAITH CASE OF INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA V CITY OF SAN DIEGO AND AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR AND COMPTROLLER TO EXPEND RELATED FUNDS

WHEREAS, Since 2002, the De La Fuente cases have been compounded by insurance coverage litigation, *Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania, et al. v. City of San Diego*, USDC Case No. 02CV0693; and

WHEREAS, the defense of the aforementioned case involves a highly specialized area of law; and

WHEREAS, the firms of Latham & Watkins and Levine Steinberg have the necessary skills and experience to assist the City in defense of this matter; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of San Diego has been briefed on the status of this matter in duly-noticed Closed Session on December 4, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Council determined to continue retention of Latham & Watkins and Levine Steinberg to assist the City Attorney in defense of this matter; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that the City Attorney is authorized to continue retention of Latham & Watkins and Levine Steinberg for the provision of legal services in *Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania*, et al. v. City of San Diego, USDC Case No. 02CV0693, in an additional amount not to exceed \$300,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Auditor and Comptroller is authorized to expend up to \$300,000 from the Public Liability Fund.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By Lawrence V. Tomanek
Chief Deputy City Attorney

LVT:jdf 0**3**/24/2008 Or.Dept:ATTY R-2008-805

Vetoed:

(date)

Diego, at this meeting of	
	ELIZABETH S. MALAND City Clerk
	By
	Deputy City Clerk
•	
Approved:	<u> </u>
(date)	JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor